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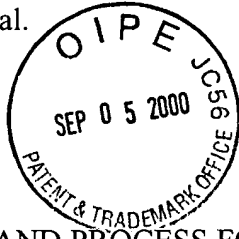
IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants : Dr. J.C. KÄRGER et al.

Appln. No. : 09/585,568

Filed : June 2, 2000

For : ELASTIC ROLLER AND PROCESS FOR PRODUCING SAME



Group Art Unit: 3726

Examiner: Unknown

#4

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. Sections 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, Applicants hereby submit the following documents for the Examiner's consideration:

Applicants submit herewith a copy of a German Search Report dated November 10, 1999 conducted in German Patent Application No. 199 25 421.4, which is a counterpart of the above-captioned application. In particular, the German Examiner cited:

(1) German Patent No. 30 29 288 C2 issued on July 5, 1984 (published March 26, 1981), as a "Y" category document (i.e., a document that calls into question the inventive step when considered with another document from this category). In particular, the German Examiner noted column 4, lines 17 - 50 as relevant to claims 1 - 33 of the German application;

(2) German Patent Application No. 197 49 228 A1, published June 2, 1999, as a "Y" category document. In particular, the German Examiner noted claim 1 as relevant to claims 2 and 26 of the German application;

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(3) German Patent Application No. 197 29 189 A1, published January 14, 1999, as a "Y" category document. In particular, the German Examiner noted claims 1 and 11 as relevant to claims 1 - 33 of the German application;

(4) German Patent Application No. 197 09 672 A1, published September 24, 1998, as a "Y" category document. In particular, the German Examiner noted claim 1 as relevant to claims 2 and 26 of the German application; and

(5) German Patent Application No. 42 26 789 A1, published February 17, 1994, as a "Y" category document relevant to claims 1 - 33 of the German application;

(6) German Patent Application No. 37 25 742 A1, published March 3, 1988, as a "Y" category document relevant to claims 1 - 33 of the German application;

(7) German Patent Application No. 39 37 246 A1, published May 31, 1990, as a "Y" category document relevant to claims 1 - 33 of the German application;

(8) German Patent Application No. 297 22 778 U1, published May 20, 1998, as a "Y" category document relevant to claims 1 - 33 of the German application; and

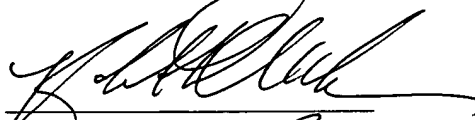
(9) European Patent Application No. 0 655 561 A1, published May 31, 1995, as a "Y" category document relevant to claims 1 - 33 of the German application.

Copies of the above-listed documents are enclosed (including the German Search Report) as is a completed copy of the PTO-1449 Form listing these documents. Accordingly, the Examiner is requested to consider these documents and to indicate such consideration by returning a signed and initialed copy of the PTO-1449 Form with the first official communication.

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Should there be any questions or comments, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the below-listed telephone number.

Respectfully submitted,
Dr. J.C. KÄRGER et al.


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September 5, 2000
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